

Provisional Vital Statistics for December 2006

Live births increased slightly in December as 6,809 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,611 one year earlier. Cumulative 12-month births increased by 3.4 percent to 81,220, the highest annual number since 1964.

Marriages increased in December but decreased for the 12-months ending with December. The provisional 2006 marriage count of 40,272 is the lowest since 1965.

Deaths decreased in December from 4,836 to 4,628. Cumulative 12-month deaths decreased slightly for 2006.

Dissolutions of marriage increased in December and for all of 2006. For the 12-months ending with December the marriage to divorce ratio decreased from 1.94 to 1.81.

The **Natural increase** in December was 2,181 (6,809 births minus 4,628 deaths). For the 12-months ending with December the natural increase rose 11.6 percent.

Infant deaths decreased in December as 38 Missouri infants died. For the 12-months ending with December the infant death rate decreased from 7.5 to 7.2 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL RESIDENT VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Item	<u>December</u>				<u>12 months ending with December</u>									
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>				<u>Rate*</u>					
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	
Live Births	6,611	6,809	13.4	13.7	76,690	77,709	78,547	81,220	13.2	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.9	
Deaths	4,836	4,628	9.8	9.3	55,195	53,787	54,324	54,179	9.8	9.7	9.3	9.4	9.3	
Natural increase	1,775	2,181	3.6	4.4	21,495	23,922	24,223	27,041	3.4	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.6	
Marriages	2,289	2,552	4.6	5.1	41,295	40,824	40,675	40,272	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9	
Dissolutions	1,755	1,803	3.6	3.6	22,166	21,700	21,013	22,228	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.8	
Infant deaths	56	38	8.5	5.6	599	583	588	586	8.5	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.2	
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,800	5,840	...	...	...	...	5,680	5,719	5,759	5,800	5,840

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1,000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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